June 24
1926

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"*We believe that governments were instituted of God for the benefit of man; and that He holds men accountable for their acts in relation to them, both in making laws and administering them, for the good and safety of society.*" DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 134: 1.

No. 25, Vol. 88 Thursday, June 24, 1926 Price One Penny

IN LIGHT AND TRUTH*

GEORGE ALBERT SMITH

OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

TIME IS VERY PRECIOUS TO-DAY, as it is always, and I desire most earnestly that the few moments I occupy will be profitable to this vast congregation.

We are living in a marvelous age, in the Dispensation of the Fulness of Times. All the other dispensations that have gone before are culminating in this one. The Lord tells us in the Book of Mormon, to which President Clawson has just referred, that at the time of the coming forth of that book, He would commence His work among all the nations; and it is remarkable that since the publication of the Book of Mormon, more important discoveries and inventions have been presented to mankind than in all the ages that had gone before. Science has developed many wonderful things. Labour-saving devices have made our work much easier than before. Electricity, which has been in the world from the beginning, has been recently discovered and has been so controlled that it is used to light our homes, to propel our street cars and railway trains, and to operate machinery of all kinds. This was unknown one hundred years ago. As a matter of fact, nobody can tell what it is to-day; but it is one of the powers in this universe that is controlled by our Father in heaven. It would seem that everything one can imagine has been provided

*Address delivered at the closing session of the Ninety-sixth Annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, April 6th, 1926.

for our comfort in this age. We have the accumulated information of the ages, and surely we ought to be inclined to take advantage of that information in order that we may enjoy our lives here and be prepared to enjoy them eternally. In our great institutions of learning men are devoting their entire time to research. There is a disposition on the part of man to find out everything that is mysterious, and the result has been that intelligent men have had their minds operated on by the Spirit of our Heavenly Father, and many of the conveniences to which I have referred have been the result. In the science of medicine newly discovered anaesthetics have been a boon to suffering humanity, and by their use the surgeon has been able to perform wonderful operations. Toxins have been prepared that have a tendency to prevent disease and to stop its spread. Opportunity is given us to know what happens in all parts of the world each day through the great newspapers and magazines that are published. Everything that you can think of in the way of comfort and information has been presented to this dispensation. Unfortunately, notwithstanding these blessings, there is a tendency to worship the gift and to forget the Giver.

THE WISDOM OF MAN TAUGHT

We have in our public schools and in our universities men and women who are trained, their minds are lighted up by the teachings of men, and it is remarkable to what a degree the business of life has been brought to the attention of the human family; but most of our schools operate as a result of the wisdom of man and exclude God, the source of all truth. We spend millions of dollars in the education of the hand and of the mind, and we exclude from many of these institutions all knowledge of our Heavenly Father, who gave to us the hand and the mind. In fact, there has been an effort made by some educators to create in the minds of pupils under their watchcare a contempt for the fact that the world we live in is controlled by our Father in heaven.

In section 93 of the Doctrine and Covenants I find this reference:

> Light and truth forsake that evil one.
>
> Every spirit of man was innocent in the beginning; and God having redeemed man from the fall, men became again, in their infant state, innocent before God.
>
> And that wicked one cometh and taketh away light and truth, through disobedience, from the children of men, and because of the tradition of their fathers.
>
> But I have commanded you to bring up your children in light and truth.

ADDITIONAL LIGHT AND TRUTH TO BE TAUGHT

So my brethren and sisters, while we can have our children educated in the arts and sciences as taught by men, there still

remains the commandment of our Heavenly Father that we shall supplement those teachings and that our children shall be reared in light and truth. I find in this same section a reference that is made to one of the men of that time. It says:

Verily I say unto you, . . . you have continued under this condemnation;

You have not taught your children light and truth, according to the commandments; and that wicked one hath power, as yet, over you, and this is the cause of your affliction.

Now the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints realises the importance of teaching children the things of God, and has given to us our auxiliary organisations. Our Heavenly Father inspired the organisation of the Relief Society, the Sabbath School, the Mutual Improvement Associations, the Primary, the Religion Class. The inspiration of the Lord gave to us our Church schools and our seminaries. All these are intended to supplement the teachings of men, and to bring our children under an influence that shall assist them while they remain here in the earth to prepare for eternal life. These have been wonderfully beneficial. Then we are instructed, even in our recreation, to teach our boys and our girls that in their pastime they should recognise our Heavenly Father; and in our day the various stakes and wards of Zion are asked to give special attention to recreation, in order that the things that induce our young people to follow after the foolishness of the world may be neutralised by keeping them in an influence that will incline them to righteousness and inspire them to do those things and live as shall make them worthy to be called sons and daughters of our Heavenly Father.

We find in section 68 of the Doctrine and Covenants something that we often hear quoted, but I am going to read it because it has application to those things I refer to:

PARENTS TO TEACH CHILDREN THE THINGS OF GOD

And again, inasmuch as parents have children in Zion, or in any of her stakes which are organized, that teach them not to understand the doctrine of repentance, faith in Christ the Son of the living God, and of baptism and the gift of the Holy Ghost by the laying on of the hands, when eight years old, the sin be upon the heads of the parents.

For this shall be a law unto the inhabitants of Zion, or in any of her stakes which are organized.

And their children shall be baptized for the remission of their sins when eight years old, and receive the laying on of the hands.

And they shall also teach their children to pray, and to walk uprightly before the Lord.

There is more of this same section that perhaps you are all familiar with, but the point that I had in mind, and what I am about to say, I am exceedingly anxious that it should sink into the mind of every parent in Zion, and that is, that while the Lord

has provided all these wonderful educational institutions, while science has contributed so much for our comfort and our blessing, while the Church has prepared places to which we may send our children to be taught the Gospel of Christ, that does not relieve you or me of the responsibility and the obligation that is laid upon us by our Heavenly Father to teach our own children. And the Lord says wherein we fail to do that, even at the tender age of eight, that the sin will be upon our heads. President Joseph F. Smith was inspired to give unto us the wise counsel to be more with our children. Notwithstanding the many things that occupy our time—the business of life, theaters, parties, socials, automobiles, pleasure resorts, the canyons and lakes—all these things that we may enjoy in moderation, notwithstanding the pursuits of life whereby we gain a livelihood, that prophet of the Lord gave to us this advice: That we should so arrange our time that one evening each week would find the Latter-day Saints in their homes, associated with their own children, and there teach them the things that the Lord has decreed that they should know. It is not sufficient that my children are taught faith, repentance and baptism and the laying on of hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost, in the auxiliary organisations. My Father in heaven has commanded that I should do that myself. I have read to you that the Lord told one man that the cause of his distress was that he had not taught his children light and truth. There is an anguish in some of the homes of the Latter-day Saints to-day because we have neglected our opportunity, and we have failed to teach our children as we should. If the home evening could only be a fact among the Latter-day Saints, if during one evening a week we would live with our own, under the influence of the Spirit of the Lord, at our firesides, surrounded by those whom the Lord has given unto us, and told us particularly that we should instruct them, how many happy homes there would be where to-day there is sorrow and discord and distress. Fathers and mothers would elicit from their children that respect that is due to parents who are model parents, and who have in their hearts a desire to teach their loved ones. We are told in Luke that there would be a time when men would be choked with the cares and the riches and the pleasures of life. I have in my mind, as I stand here even now, men and women that I love, whose very spirituality is being choked by these things, and the adversary is leading them along that easy pathway of pleasure and they are neglecting their duty as parents and as members of the Church of Jesus Christ.

THE DUTY WE OWE TO OUR CHILDREN

It was said by one of the speakers that your commission, you men of Israel, is from God the Eternal Father. The Holy Priesthood has been conferred upon us, and if we exercise it as we

should, as we have a right to do in our homes, when we shut out the world and the things of the outside, and under the power of prayer and thanksgiving we give to our sons and daughters those rich truths that the Lord has deposited with us for our welfare and for theirs, a genuine development of faith will follow. I hope that it will be possible for us to return, if we have departed from that advice. Gather our children around us and let our homes be the abiding place of the Spirit of the Lord. If we will do our part, we may know and be sure that our Heavenly Father will do His. Let us avail ourselves of all the information that it is possible to obtain in the world; it will rise with us in the resurrection. I am grateful for the great men and women who give their lives for the education of the human family, and I am grateful to God that He has given to us in this latter day a knowledge that the wisdom of man is not sufficient, but it takes the wisdom of our Heavenly Father to prepare us for eternal life in His celestial kingdom. Are you satisfied with the thought that your children will go to the terrestrial or the telestial kingdom? Are you satisfied that you shall inherit either of these lesser kingdoms? It is that you might enjoy the celestial kingdom that the Priesthood of the living God has been conferred upon men in this day. It is that we might gain the celestial glory that the Gospel of Jesus Christ has been given to the children of men. Now in the midst of confusion, excitement and all the pleasures of life let us not lose sight of the pearl of great price, the power of God unto salvation, and let us not lose sight of the duty that we owe these boys and girls who are created in the image of God. He is the Father of their spirits, and He will hold us responsible for the teaching that they receive. I hope and pray that we will so teach them that when the end shall come we can receive from Him that blessing, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: . . . enter thou into the joy of thy Lord"; and that we may have our loved ones with us eternally, is my prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE NOTTINGHAM CONFERENCE

THE CULMINATION of the Spring Conference season in the British Mission for 1926 occurred at Nottingham, Sunday, June 13th, with the holding of three general sessions in the "I. L. P." (Independent Labour Party) hall. These meetings constituted the first conference that has been held in the Robin Hood city for four years. The local press gave fair mention of the proceedings, saying in part:

Dr. Talmage declared that the message of the Church to the world was one of positive worth, and that no sinister purpose, subterfuge, or element

of deception actuated it. Thorough investigation and earnest inquiry was solicited by the Church and its representatives at all times.

President James E. Talmage, Sister May Booth Talmage, Elders Z. Vernon Derrick and James K. Knudson journeyed from Liverpool and were in attendance together with Conference President Orson H. Pratt and all the Traveling Elders of the Nottingham district, Elder Owen J. Carlisle of the Birmingham district and Elder Hyrum Hand of Salt Lake City, Utah, who is visiting friends and relatives in England, his birthplace and former mission field.

Missionary meetings and a convention of the local Priesthood were conducted by the Mission President, at which detailed reports of the functions of each body were given together with instructions to stimulate greater efficiency. Sister Talmage met with the Relief Society sisters and reviewed conditions of the organisation and gave admonition for the extension of its several phases.

The morning program, rendered under Sunday School auspices, denoted talent and careful preparation and training on the part of both the composers and participants. Members of each Branch in the district welded and strengthened a link of gospel thought in the complete chain of the theme, which comprised the first, fourth and sixth Articles of Faith, the Word of Wisdom, reverence for the Sabbath, and the Latter-day Saint desire for relative perfection, which was expressed in the following short verse:

Begin while life is bright and young,
Work out each noble plan;
True knowledge lends a charm to youth,
And dignifies the man.
Then upward, onward, step by step,
Unto perfection rise;
And emulate with hearts of hope,
The good, the great, the wise.

Sister Talmage commented on the Word of Wisdom, showing by anecdote that the counsels of the Lord given in this revelation are "adapted to the capacity of the weak and the weakest of all saints, who are or can be called saints." The Mission President expressed words of commendation on the rendition of the program and praise for those who prepared it.

Characteristic Latter-day Saint musical talent and regard for elevating composition was evinced by the inspiring selections rendered by the Leicester and Nottingham Branch choirs and a piano solo by Brother Ernest Cheetham. Conference President Orson H. Pratt said that progress is being made in the missionary work of the district. He explained in brief discourse the free agency of man, and affirmed that it is impossible for man to be truly happy without a clear conception of God and a desire to

seek His guidance through the medium of prayer. The Gospel as established by the Saviour in His day was lost, as a valuable pearl, in the dark ages that followed, but has been found and restored again in this dispensation, said Elder John H. Wilson. Elder Z. Vernon Derrick cited prophecies uttered by Joseph Smith, which demonstrate beyond a doubt his prophetic calling and heavenly inspiration. Missionary experiences of forty years ago were related by Elder Hyrum Hand. Among other things he said: "My missionary labour taught me that if we could get into the homes of friends and deliver our message, much of the prevailing prejudice against our people would be eradicated." We want men clean in mind, calm in judgment and keen in investigation to look into our message, said the Mission President. We seek to deceive none, but proclaim as a solemn truth the fact of a literal restoration of the Gospel of Christ, as foretold by Scripture; and we leave the result of our delivering these tidings in the hands of the Lord, who will bear witness of our integrity.

In the closing service Elder Dean A. Barker said that if men desire a knowledge of the Lord they should seek it from the Lord; mortal deduction of His existence will avail nothing by way of absolute testimony. Men should put quality into their lives, and can do so by applying the principles of the Gospel, affirmed Elder E. Eric Snow. Elder James K. Knudson averred that the name—the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—is a complete epitome of the cardinal truths and philosophical basis of the system called "Mormonism." Sister Talmage asked the significant question: "If the claims of the Latter-day Saints are all they purport to be, is it not worth while to investigate them?" The Saviour was the son of a mortal mother, but not the son of a mortal Father, proclaimed the Mission President. From His mother Jesus inherited mortal traits, but from His Father He received inherent characteristics of Godhood and divinity, coupled with all the powers and privileges attached. In the birth of any child to earth there are three parties concerned—the mother, the father, and the pre-existent spirit, which enters the body, thus constituting a living soul. We are as school children away from home and are gaining intelligence and experience, which will continue with us throughout eternity. There are certain requirements in the curriculum of earth-life that must be observed to obtain eventual salvation; these are contained in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

E. Eric Snow, Conference Clerk

When you climb a ladder, you must begin at the bottom and ascend step by step until you arrive at the top; and so it is with the principles of the Gospel; you must begin with the first and go along until you have learned all the principles of exaltation.—Joseph Smith.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1926

EDITORIAL

THROUGH PRAYER AND FAITH

Elder E. G. Holding, an active Church worker, and well known as a prominent electrician of Salt Lake City, in which business he has been continuously engaged for a full half century, has written to us by way of confirmation of a wonderful story published in the *Birmingham Mail*, December 31, 1925. As a well attested instance of healing following an accident that appeared to be almost assuredly fatal, the event to which the *Birmingham Mail* has so liberally accorded space is well worth reproduction here. It follows:

Wonderful Recovery After Accident

"One of the last living links with the pioneer days of Mormonism, when emigrants to Utah and its famed Salt Lake City crossed the prairies in covered ox-drawn wagons which took months to complete the journey, has been severed with the death at her home, 110 Alcester Road, Moseley, of Mrs. Sarah Jane Bryden, at the age of 78.

"Though Mrs. Bryden was never actually a Mormon, her parents were adherents of Brigham Young, the Mormon 'Apostle', and they emigrated to Utah with their family as members of a large party of converts in 1853 under the leadership of Joseph W. Young, brother to Brigham. During the long cross-prairie journey, full of hardships and perils, a serious accident befell Mrs. Bryden, who was then only six years of age, and her recovery after prayer by the elders of the party was looked upon as little short of miraculous.

"The family set out from Liverpool in the sailing vessel *Elvira Owen* on February 15, 1853, and arrived at New Orleans, a journey which now takes about a week, six weeks later. It was not until October 6, more than seven months after landing in America, that they reached Salt Lake City. During the weary months of the interim they were crossing, at almost a snail's pace, the 2,000 miles of country which separated the port from their destination.

"Mr. Bryden has many cuttings and pictures collected by his wife reflecting life in Salt Lake City, and her subsequent return visit there. He also preserves a host of reminiscences recounted to him by Mrs. Bryden.

CRUSHED UNDER WHEELS

"A scar across Mrs. Bryden's head, which was just concealed by her hair, remained as the only testimony to the wonderful recovery, about which she was often heard to speak. The manner of the accident and the cure was as follows:—

"The oxen wagon, one of a long, uneven train, on which Mrs. Bryden and her brother, then little children, were riding was so heavily laden with freight that the tops of the packages came level with the sides of the vehicle and left no protecting barrier. While the two children were playing about on the surface one of the wheels jolted into a deep rut and the little girl (Mrs. Bryden) was thrown off at the front, directly in the path of the wheel. The driver did not notice what had happened and went on, with the result that the wheels passed over a portion of the child's head.

"'Then,' in Mrs. Bryden's own words to an American interviewer some years ago, 'the people in the party did what no other people, I think, would have done, out in the plains alone, and far from medical aid. They picked up the little child and, finding that part of her head was crushed almost to a pulp, portions of the brain being visible, all the elders of the wagon train gathered round and submitted their case to God, in whom they believed and trusted. They prayed for the little girl and then, with their hands, anointed her and urged her head, as best they could, back into place.'

"The little one lived, and before the end of the long trek she was playing as before with her brother on the wagon top.

LEFT PENNILESS

"Mrs. Bryden's father was so enthusiastic a convert to the creed of Brigham Young that he, like many others at the time, sacrificed his all to follow his belief. His father threatened him that if he went to Utah he would leave him penniless, and he was as good as his word when he died soon after his son's emigration.

"There was a strange and tragic sequel. Three years later a sister, feeling pity for her disinherited brother, wrote to say that if he would return she would make amends for their father's severity; and for the sake of his family the father again undertook with them the arduous journey and returned to England and to their native Shropshire.

"The sister bought for him a farm near Wem, but before the deeds were complete she died and the family were left helpless, the father dying soon afterwards. Later, Mrs. Bryden's mother with two sons and a daughter returned to Utah, and the mother died there at the ripe age of 90, while two other sons and another daughter (Mrs. Bryden) remained in England.

"In 1908 Mrs. Bryden paid a return visit to Salt Lake City, of

which she said that she 'had never seen another city quite so beautiful,' but even the fact that she had relations in Utah and that her parents were Mormons did not gain her the much-desired privilege of seeing the inside of the famous Mormon Temple, the electric lighting of which was undertaken by her brother. She was told that she 'was not nearly good enough!'

"Incidentally the White Star liner, *Republic*, in which Mrs. Bryden crossed to America in 1908, sank on the next voyage. Once more her guiding star was watchful!

"Mrs. Bryden had a great respect for the Mormon community. Much that had been written and said about them, she declared, was greatly coloured. They were a very good-living people. She was herself a member of the Church of Christ and a vice-president of the Mrs. George Cadbury Afternoon Women's Class."

Brother E. G. Holding has written to the *Birmingham Mail* direct, and that influential journal gave place to the communication in its issue of May 1, 1926, as follows:

FROM UTAH

"Another letter this week from America hails from Salt Lake City, Utah, and is from Mr. E. G. Holding, who writes:

"'In your issue of December 31, 1925, you published an article on the death of a Mormon pioneer at Moseley, which was wonderfully correct. [We do not quite like the sinister suggestion underlying this phrase.—Ed. 'B. M.'] The lady referred to was Sarah Jane Holding, my sister, and wife of Mr. James J. Bryden, of Birmingham. The brother referred to in the article is myself. I was riding on the wagon by her side when she fell out with her head right in front of the wheel and it passed over her. If there ever was a miracle performed on a human being there certainly was one performed on her. I was only four years old, but the fright so planted it on the mind that I well remember it.

"'My oldest brother (who resides in London) was crossing the plains in 1853 when the wagon passed over the small of his back, and the same thing happened to him going back over the plains in 1854.'"

The South American Mission.—Good word continues to come regarding missionary work in South America. This newly-opened Mission is presided over by Elder Melvin J. Ballard of the Council of the Twelve, assisted by Elder Rey L. Pratt of the First Council of Seventy. Evidence of the general interest felt by our people in this new field appears in the inquiries relating thereto, which come to the Liverpool Office. A pleasing instance of this interest is found in the recent receipt of a substantial donation of money for the benefit of the South American Mission from Brother

William J. Maytom of the North London Branch, which has been promptly transmitted. According to latest notification, correspondence should be addressed to

President Melvin J. Ballard
Santa Fe, 1301. Departamento C.,
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Sur America

GOSPEL TEACHINGS*

The Word of Wisdom

The Law to Ancient Israel. In all ages of the world, whenever the Lord has established His truth and raised up a righteous people, He has instructed them as to the manner of their living. Through Moses He prescribed for the children of Israel specific injunctions as to what food they should or should not eat to be clean before Him. To Aaron the Lord said:

Do not drink wine nor strong drink, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die: it shall be a statute for ever throughout your generations:

And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean;

And that ye may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the Lord hath spoken unto them by the hand of Moses.—Lev. 10:9-11.

Daniel and the three Hebrew children had learned the virtue of prudence and governance of appetite. They obeyed the law of the Lord and objected to eating the "king's meat", "and at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat."

Paul enjoined the Corinthians through written epistle to regard their bodies as sacred heritages, saying:

Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?

If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are.—1 Cor. 3:16, 17.

The Word of Wisdom in this Dispensation. To the children of modern Israel has also been given divine instruction concerning their physical welfare. One of the vital revelations given through the Prophet Joseph Smith to the restored Church is published as the 89th section of the Doctrine and Covenants and is known as the Word of Wisdom. At the time of the establishment of the

*This article is for use in the course of study of the Relief Societies on the first meeting night in July.

Church in these latter days the world had departed from hygienic and scientific living, which, as the revelation itself states, made these instructions necessary.

A Word of Wisdom, for the benefit of the council of high priests, assembled in Kirtland, and the church, and also the saints in Zion—

To be sent greeting; not by commandment or constraint, but by revelation and the word of wisdom, showing forth the order and will of God in the temporal salvation of all saints in the last days—

Given for a principle with promise, adapted to the capacity of the weak and the weakest of all saints, who are or can be called saints.

Behold, verily, thus saith the Lord unto you: In consequence of evils and designs which do and will exist in the hearts of conspiring men in the last days, I have warned you, and forewarn you, by giving unto you this word of wisdom by revelation.—Doctrine and Covenants 89: 1-4.

Counsel from Leaders. The following extracts from sermons and writings of the early leaders of the Church indicate the importance attached to obedience to this revelation.

From a sermon by Patriarch Hyrum Smith, delivered in Nauvoo, October 1842 :

Everything has become degenerated from what it was in its primitive state. God made man pure, but he has found out many inventions; his vices have become innumerable, and his diseases multiplied; his taste has become vitiated, and his judgment impaired; he has fallen, fallen, fallen from that dignified state that he once occupied on the earth, and it needs a restorative that man has not in his possession—wisdom which is beyond the reach of human intellect—and power which human philosophy, talent and ingenuity cannot control. . . . He knows what course to pursue to restore mankind to their pristine excellency, and primitive vigor and health; and He has appointed the Word of Wisdom as one of the engines to bring about this thing.

Speaking of the use of tobacco and hot drinks, the Patriarch said:

God will not prosper the man who uses it. "And again, hot drinks are not for the body or belly." There are many who wonder what this can mean, whether it refers to tea or coffee, or not. I say it does refer to tea and coffee. . . . Let these things be adhered to—let the Saints be wise—let us lay aside our folly and abide by the commandments of God, so shall we be blessed of the great Jehovah in time and eternity; we shall be healthy, strong and vigorous; we shall be enabled to resist disease, and wisdom shall crown our councils, and our bodies will become strong and powerful; our progeny will become mighty, and will rise up and call us blessed; the daughters of Zion will be beautiful, and her sons the joy of the whole earth.

From a sermon by President Brigham Young:

Many of our sisters think they cannot live without tea. I will tell you what we can do—I have frequently said it to my brethren and sisters—if they cannot live without tea, coffee, brandy, whiskey, wine, beer,

tobacco, etc., they can die without them. This is beyond controversy. If we had the determination that we should have, we would live without them or die without them. Let the mother impregnate her system with these narcotic influences when she is bringing forth a family on the earth, and what does she do? She lays the foundation of weakness, palpitation of the heart, nervous affections, and many other ills and diseases in the system of her offspring that will afflict them from the cradle to the grave. Is this righteous or unrighteous, good or evil? Let my sisters ask and answer the question for themselves, and the conclusion which each and every one of them may come to is this: "If I do any injury to my child, I sin."

From an editorial in the *Millennial Star* in 1854:

"But," says one, "what can I do that would be pleasing in the sight of God, that I am not commanded to do?" We answer, keep the Word of Wisdom. It was given for this very purpose, not by commandment nor by constraint, but by revelation showing forth the will of God. It claims to be given "for a principle with promise." The principle in question is what the Saints should understand and it amounts to this—will Saints do the will of God, when made known to them by revelation, without being commanded, or will they do nothing but what they feel compelled to do in order to escape the punishment of the law? This is a point upon which every Saint must be proven, and the Word of Wisdom is the test. . . . The Word of Wisdom claims to be the "will of God", and if so, no Saint can disregard it without feeling under a greater or lesser degree of condemnation. No Saint can pray for the will of God to be done on earth as it is in heaven, and at the same time trample upon the Word of Wisdom, without mocking Him; for if such a glorious time ever comes, they must not only keep the Word of Wisdom, but every other expressed will of Heaven, whether by commandment or counsel. . . .

Surely the Lord could have no other motive in revealing the Word of Wisdom than to bless, make happy, and exalt His Saints, and for them to despise such proffered blessings exhibits a degree of contempt for God's ways, which can only be expected from those who are either corrupt at heart, or so unreasonably ignorant as to be incapacitated to guard their own happiness, much more to be entrusted with that of others.

From the Standpoint of Finance. There is a financial side to the Word of Wisdom. We waste our means when we use them for things that are not good for the body. President Brigham Young illustrates this:

We were very urgent, a year or two ago, with regard to the Word of Wisdom, and the influence then raised made an impression on the people which caused them to forsake the use of these unnecessary articles for the time being. It was our wish then, that the money generally paid out for tea and coffee, liquor, tobacco, etc., be used to send for the poor Saints and bring them to a land where they can accumulate the common necessities of life, instead of staying in their own land, and going down to an untimely grave for the want of food. I recollect

one sister said to me one day: "Brother Brigham, here is twenty dollars"—I think that was the sum—"I give this into the poor fund. At such a time you advised us to let our tea and coffee alone, and contribute the same amount that we would expend for these articles in bringing the poor from the old country. It would have taken twenty dollars to supply me with these articles to this time. I have saved the money, my health is now more than fifty per cent better than when I left off tea; I can now work ten, or perhaps twelve hours a day easier than I could two or three when I took those stimulants."

Think what it would mean in the British Isles if the £1,000,000 spent each week day on alcoholic drink* was devoted to a charitable end—what suffering would be alleviated, what hunger it would satisfy, what succour it would bring to the needy. As it is, one writer claims that poverty, disease, crime and accidents are the bitter fruitage and ravages of drink.

Science Sustains Our Position. In this day of scientific knowledge the Word of Wisdom needs no argument to prove its virtue. The world is coming by leaps and bounds to accept the principles therein enumerated. President Young declared that its observance was binding upon the people, that thenceforth it was given to them as a commandment.

Latter-day Saints should place themselves in conformity with the word of the Lord through His servants:

And all saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, walking in obedience to the commandments, shall receive health in their navel and marrow to their bones;

And shall find wisdom and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures;

And shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint.

And I, the Lord, give unto them a promise, that the destroying angel shall pass by them, as the children of Israel, and not slay them. Amen.

DISCUSSION

1. Tell the story of Daniel and the three Hebrew children as contained in the first chapter of Daniel.
2. Read Section 89 of the Doctrine and Covenants in class.
3. What did Patriarch Hyrum Smith say had happened to man since God created him?
4. How may the race be brought back to its original vigour and pristine beauty?
5. Tell the story of the sister who took the money to President Young.
6. What is your personal opinion in regard to keeping the Word of Wisdom?
7. Read Doctrine and Covenants 76: 5-10; connect these promises with those given in the Word of Wisdom.

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*This figure is quoted from an address delivered by Sir Arthur Newsholme, at Liverpool, January 27th, 1926.

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Transfer—Elder Rondo H. Robinson has been transferred from the Sheffield to the Free State Conference.

Releases and Departures—Elder Rollo E. Watkins, who has labomred as a Traveling Elder in the Sheffield and Liverpool Conferences, and Elder C. Leland Davey, who has labomred as a Traveling Elder in the Newcastle and Manchester Conferences, have been honourably released to return to their homes in America; they sailed from Liverpool by the steamship *Montcalm*, June 18th. Elder Wayne E. Steffensen, released, sailed for home on June 19th.

Arrivals and Assignments—The following Missionaries arrived in Liverpool, June 12th, on the steamship *Montcalm*, and have been thus assigned:

For the British Mission—Earl R. Webb, Idaho Falls, Idaho, to the Newcastle Conference.

For the German-Austrian Mission—Morten M. Goodman, Florence, Arizona.

Doings in the Conferences: *Leeds*—A carnival concert was given in the Pudsey Branch, under the auspices of the Pudsey Sunday School, on May 29th by the Beehive girls. The Bradford Relief Society sale of work was held June 12th; an interesting program was given in the evening.

Scottish—In a small lake near the city of Aberdeen, Scotland, the baptismal ordinance was administered to three persons by Elder Daniel A. Thompson; they were confirmed the same day, May 31st, by Elder Thompson.

Hull—President Thomas Wharram and family of the Hull Branch were tendered a well attended farewell social on June 9th, prior to their leaving for America, where they will make their home with members of the family who have preceded them there. President Reginald F. Beames spoke of the devotion of Brother and Sister Wharram to the gospel cause.

Birmingham—Elder Boyd W. Madsen administered baptism to one person on June 9th; Elder John H. Parker officiated in the confirmatory ordinance later the same day.

From Abroad: Our Elders report many cases which indicate that angels go before them to prepare the way. I visited a family in Coblenz; the woman says that she had been praying to be shown the truth; then an Elder came to her door. She was shocked to learn that he was a "Mormon" missionary, but was still humble enough to pray: "If this is the truth make it manifest and I will obey." The family are now sincere investigators. Among the

baptisms I witnessed was that of a man who had been seeking light for years. His brother had noticed our sign in front of the hall and attended meeting. He ridiculed what he had heard and in this spirit told our present member, who investigated and accepted the Gospel. Another family is ready for baptism in one of our new fields. The man testified in a fast-meeting that a missionary counseled him to ask the Lord for a testimony. He did so humbly and the following night had a dream that fully convinced him.—*From President Hugh J. Cannon, Swiss-German Mission.*

Words from the Workers: The Cambridge and Huntingdon district has not been frequently visited by our Missionaries heretofore. We are finding many humble sincere people who seek the truth, and the prospects for the work in this place are excellent. We are much talked of, and our arrival in this field has caused a general stir and to a large extent a desire to learn of our teachings.—*From Elders Raymond Murphy and William G. Bennett, Norwich Conference.*

We enjoy tracting small villages and farmhouses; it seems that the rural people are more receptive to the gospel message. We have had many interesting conversations on the principles of the Gospel. Our experiences are sources of joy to us, for we always feel happiest when aiding our fellowmen to see more clearly the teachings of Jesus Christ.—*From Elders Harold E. Brown and John D. Hansen, Sheffield Conference.*

Two of our Traveling Elders completed a four day trip by bicycle from York to Hull and return. The farms and villages along the way were visited; many gospel conversations resulted. They were received kindly by all whom they visited, and left tracts and pamphlets with the people they met. The Elders are enthused with the success of the trip and are anxious to make similar excursions into outlying districts.—*From President Reginald F. Beames, Hull Conference.*

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EDITED, PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY JAMES E. TALMAGE, 295 EDGE LANE

LIVERPOOL

FOR SALE IN ALL THE CONFERENCES OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN